

Baptist and Reflector

October 21, 1992

VOL. 158 ■ NO. 43

STATEWIDE EDITION

this week's news

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FMB okays new budget, still seeking president

By Bob Stanley
For Baptist Press

RICHMOND — The search for a new president for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board continued even as trustees and staff paid tribute Oct. 12-14 to their retiring president, R. Keith Parks.

Trustee Leon Hyatt of Louisiana, vice chairman of the presidential search committee, presided as the group met Oct. 13 in Richmond. He told trustees at their business session the next day the committee is still "praying" and "probing" to find God's man for the presidency. Committee chairman Joel Gregory, who recently resigned as pastor of First Church, Dallas, did not attend the meeting.

Hyatt criticized an Associated Baptist Press story that reported the committee had narrowed its search down to two men: FMB interim president-elect Don Kammerdiener and Sunday School Board administrator Avery Willis, a former missionary to Indonesia. He described the ABP account as "inaccurate."

After the meeting Hyatt declined to elaborate on the particulars of the ABP story, but said the committee still has no firm date for completing its search. He

also declined to confirm that Gregory himself is not a candidate, as ABP reported. "But that's not intended to say he will be," Hyatt quickly added.

Some trustees expressed anger that ABP's quoting of anonymous committee sources had compromised the integrity of the committee. One said the committee is still considering multiple candidates and likely is months away from a final selection.

Greg Warner, ABP executive editor, defended use of unnamed sources as "indispensable to investigative journalism." The sources were search committee members, he added. But he said ABP is anxious to correct the alleged inaccuracies if Hyatt or others on the committee will identify which statements are inaccurate.

In other actions, trustees:

- Ratified the "Hamburg Agreement" for future work with European Baptists, which was drawn up by FMB representatives and European Baptist leaders in September.
- Approved a 1993 budget of \$183.8 million, less than one tenth of a percent increase over this year's total.
- Accepted the resignation of eight more European missionary couples, including Paul Thibodeaux,



JUDSON ASSOCIATION officers are, from left, Joe Estes, vice moderator, pastor, Parker's Creek Church, Bon Aqua; Jerry Reynolds, director of missions, interim director of missions and evangelist, Dickson; Billy Bateman, moderator, pastor, New Hope Church, New Hope; and Bob Talbert, clerk, pastor, Maple Grove Church, Dickson. The association met Oct. 2-3 at Mount Zion Church, Fairview. — Photo by Connie Davis

associate to the area director for eastern Europe, and his wife, Margie. Four of the couples said they could not continue working with a board they claim has departed from Southern Baptists' traditional indigenous approach to missions — a charge trustees deny.

■ Shored up its European staff by transferring Jack Shelby and his wife, Avah, from Cooperative Services International to help coordinate volunteer work in eastern Europe. Shelby has been a field director of the Southern Baptist aid organization, operating out of Hong Kong.

■ Appointed 41 to its missions force and reappointed two to bring

the current total to 3918 missionaries in 126 countries.

■ Honored 75 retiring missionaries with a cumulative total of 2184 years of service in 35 countries.

But the focus of much of the meeting was Keith Parks, who will retire as president at the end of October. In report after report, staff members reported statistics and accomplishments of Parks' almost-13 year tenure.

Harlan Spurgeon, vice president for mission personnel, said 4866 people have been appointed or employed for overseas service since Parks became president in 1980. This is 42 percent of all the — FMB okays, page 2

Southern president announces plans to retire

By David R. Wilkinson
For Baptist Press

LOUISVILLE — Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt told the school's trustees Oct. 12 he will retire at the end of 1993.

The surprise announcement stunned trustees and a gallery of faculty, staff, and students at the opening session of the board's semiannual meeting on campus.

Honeycutt, who turns 66 later this month, previously had declared his intention to serve until age 70. But he told trustees he recently "became convinced that at this juncture in our covenant life an orderly transition in the presidency would contribute positively to the seminary's mission."

He said he will retire effective Dec. 31, 1993.

Elected in 1982, Honeycutt has presided over Southern Baptists' oldest seminary during a stormy decade of denominational conflict. Although he is widely credited with steering the seminary clear of a major crisis, tensions have been high in recent years as "conservative" trustees solidified control of the board. In

a "covenant" approved in 1991, faculty and trustees agreed to fill future faculty positions with "conservative evangelical scholars" in order to move the seminary in a more "conservative" direction.

Despite the tensions, Honeycutt stressed his decision to retire grew solely out of a "commitment to the best interests of Southern Seminary."

"The singular nature of my decision is important for friends and all who love Southern Seminary to hear clearly," he said. "No member of the board of trustees knew I was considering retirement, nor did any trustee suggest or imply such action."

Honeycutt said the decision "came at my initiative and only after most serious reflection and prayer. My conviction of God's leadership remains as firm in my retirement as does my belief in his providence which brought me to the presidency."

Although he had heart bypass surgery in 1990, Honeycutt said he continues to feel well and health considerations were not a significant factor in his decision.

In a prayer following the announcement, trustee chairman Wayne Allen said he received the

news with sadness but also with gratitude for Honeycutt's "spirit of self-sacrifice and total commitment" to the seminary.

"It's hard for me to imagine anyone who can give the kind of leadership Roy Honeycutt has given to this seminary," he told trustees.

Allen, pastor of Briarwood Church, Memphis, then briefed trustees on presidential search guidelines and announced the appointment of a search committee. The seven members are board officers Allen; vice chairman Larry Adams, administrator of the Baptist Retirement Center in Ok-

lahoma City; and second vice chairman Charles Q. Carter, pastor of First Church, Jonesboro, Ga.; Richard White, pastor, First Church, Franklin, and chairman of the board's academic personnel committee; and three laymen, Neal Gresham, a retired General Motors executive from Wing, Ala.; Carroll Karkalits, dean of the college of engineering and technology at McNeese State University, Lake Charles, La.; and P. A. Stevens, a fire protection contractor from Louisville, Ky.

Adams, Carter, and White are Southern Seminary graduates. □

Convention services added

Messengers and visitors to the Tennessee Baptist Convention sessions in Gatlinburg Nov. 17-18 will have an easy time getting around the city.

City officials have arranged for trolley service to begin at 8:30 each morning and continue to 9:30 p.m. The cost for trolley service is 25 cents and the route will include the full circuit of Gatlinburg — as far as the City Hall parking lot on

the east to the first traffic light on the north side.

Trolley service also will be provided for the Monday meetings.

Two interpreters to hearing impaired messengers will be provided. Theola Renshaw and Patricia Faulkner assist with the ministry at First Church, Sevierville. A special section of seating will be reserved. □

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FMB okays new budget; still seeking . . .

— Continued from page 1
missionaries ever appointed by the board, he noted.

Finance vice president Carl Johnson said Parks had led in greatly strengthening the board's financial position as well as its benefits for missionaries. During Parks' administration, the board has increased its endowment from \$14 million to \$72 million, almost doubled its contingency reserve to \$25 million, raised the missionaries' salaries and cost-of-living allowances, and tripled contributions to the missionary pension plan.

Trustee Alan Thompson of Arizona presented 38-year mission service pins to Parks and his wife, Helen Jean, who worked 14 years as missionaries to Indonesia before he joined the administrative staff. Thompson also presented Parks a "Resolution of Appreciation" plaque outlining major accomplishments achieved during his presidency.

At a reception Oct. 12, trustees gave the Parkses a camera; four volumes of letters of appreciation received from missionaries, staff, trustees and other Southern Baptists, and missions leaders; and the title to the Ford automobile the board has provided for his use. Trustees also announced they had donated \$1500 to the library of the Indonesian Baptist seminary to provide books in the name of

"Helen Jean and Keith Parks." One of the Parkses' three sons, Kent, and his wife, Erika, are missionaries to Indonesia.

Trustees ratified with no dissenting votes the Hamburg Agreement, a blueprint for future partnership with European Baptists drawn up at a Sept. 11-12 meeting in Hamburg, Germany. The agreement had already been ratified by the executive council of the European Baptist Federation at a London meeting Sept. 28-Oct. 1 (See below . . . for the text of the Hamburg Agreement).

Tennessee trustee Bill Blanchard, pastor of First Church, Sody Daisy, was one of the FMB representatives at the Hamburg meeting. He is vice chairman of the trustees' Europe, Middle East, and North Africa committee. He described the agreement as "monumental."

"We're glad that both we and they understand that future cooperation with any of our Baptist brothers and sisters in Europe will be voluntary, open, and based upon the presupposition that the Bible is completely trustworthy," Blanchard said.

Sam James, the board's new vice president for Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa, told the mission personnel committee the Hamburg Agreement had led to reactivating a number of requests for missionaries in

several countries that had put the requests "on hold" after the 1991 decision to defund the Ruschlikon seminary.

About 40 personnel requests are open in Europe, including 21 in Eastern Europe, James said. A total of 11 requests are under the board's Green Alert plan for former Soviet republics, he said, and six state Baptist partnerships are set for Eastern Europe and three for Western Europe.

Responding to a question on volunteers in Eastern Europe, James urged trustees not to substitute a large volunteer force for the presence of career missionaries. Volunteers can strengthen what career missionaries are doing, James said, but should not take the place of long-term personnel who learn the language and culture and invest their lives there.

During the Oct. 12 plenary session, trustees heard concerns on the election of the board's new president from Cal Guy, distinguished professor of missions, emeritus, at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Guy earlier had spoken on this subject to the board's presidential search committee and voiced a longtime desire to address the full board, said trustee chairman John Jackson, who invited Guy to the October meeting. Jackson introduced

Guy as "one of the great missiologists of our day."

A frequent Foreign Mission Board volunteer, Guy told trustees he has spent a lifetime teaching missions, encouraging students to commit themselves to mission service and support.

Trustee decisions about the new presidential profile should seek to guarantee "that your man is, by nature, a secure, mature, knowledgeable leader," Guy said. He added that he told FMB trustees five years before Parks was elected president that Parks was that kind of man. "I was so sure then and now that he was the best-prepared man we've had. I stand by that still . . ." he said.

Guy presented a document outlining the characteristics he felt trustees should look for in the new president. These include (1) an operational concept of shared leadership; (2) a commitment to administration as his major assignment and promotion as a very minor one; (3) missionary experience; (4) thorough training in mission philosophy, strategy, and methods (5) strength to make adjustments for the sake of maximum harvest; (6) willingness and ability to teach; and (7) filled with the Holy Spirit.

Guy said it was important the new president have "fruitful, productive, and visionary" missionary experience.

Text of the EBF/FMB Hamburg Agreement

Preamble: Seven representatives of the European Baptist Federation (EBF) and six representatives of the Foreign Mission Board (FMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention met at Hamburg, Germany, Sept. 11 and 12, 1992 to discuss the basis of future cooperation between the two bodies. Discussions on many key issues were frank and open and carried out in an atmosphere of Christian love and included times of prayer and devotions.

1. Review and reconciliation: The consultation began with a review of the events relating to the decision to defund the Baptist Theological Seminary, Ruschlikon, Switzerland, which had led to the breakdown in relationships between the FMB and the EBF. As the discussions proceeded, both parties increasingly recognized the extent of the damage caused by the decision, but they experienced by the grace of God forgiveness in Christ and reconciliation.

The EBF representatives were greatly encouraged to learn that the FMB trustees at their meeting on June 24, 1992, had unanimously endorsed the five partnership principles embodied in the Dorfweil statement, written and adopted by EBF leaders on Jan. 28, 1992. These principles are:

a. Mutual respect in which the partners deal with each other with candor but with Christian courtesy. (Ephesians 4:1-3)

b. Spiritual freedom in which the partners, working within a common commitment, recognize and welcome differences of outlook and diversity of practice. (Romans 15:7; Mark 9:38-41)

c. Moral integrity in which the

partners honor and maintain solemnly-made agreements. (II Corinthians 1:12,17)

d. Genuine consultation in which the partners confer together and aim for mutual consent. (II Corinthians 8:8-9)

e. Reciprocal sharing in which the partners learn, work, and grow together, each giving and receiving. (Romans 1:11-12)

All in the Consultation agreed freely, unreservedly, and unequivocally that these principles should form the basis of future partnership between FMB and European Baptists.

2. FMB Vice President: The representative members of the EBF heartily endorsed the election by the Foreign Mission Board of Samuel M. James as Vice President for Europe, Middle East, and North Africa. They recognized in him the kind of attitude to mission and Christian spirit which should lead to fruitful cooperation between the FMB and European Baptists. They look forward to working closely with him in the future.

3. Partnership in mission: It was the unanimous conviction of the group that they should continue joint ministry in Europe. They affirmed the basis for such cooperation, both in their spiritual unity and in the magnitude of the spiritual needs of Europe. With this conviction in view, they resolved to encourage European Baptist Unions to proceed with partnership relations with the Foreign Mission Board. They further urged the Foreign Mission Board to accept the on-going challenge of the whole of Europe as a mission field and to strengthen partnership with European Baptists.

4. Cooperation with others: The EBF representatives indicated their intention of working with both the Foreign Mission Board and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF). The EBF representative reported that, by official action, their Board had given the assurance that this would not adversely affect relationships with EBF. At the same time, the EBF representatives indicated their intention of discouraging any element of competition in developing relationships with both bodies.

5. Maintaining relationships: Since true partnership requires continuous communication, on-going dialogue, and regular review regarding work and common concerns, the participants agreed to make these the basis of their future partnership.

Periodic visits of Foreign Mission Board administrators to European Baptist Federation leaders will be a primary feature of this interchange. This should be complemented by visits of European Baptist Federation delegations to Richmond.

6. Preserving Baptist unity: During the meeting it became clear that unity in Christ among Baptist churches and Unions in Europe was particularly important in the light of the divisions the continent had experienced in recent years. Members of the Consultation agreed to urge those they were representing to do everything in their power to avoid disrupting this unity; rather, "to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace." (Ephesians 4:3)

7. Belief and strategy: The members of the Consultation jointly affirmed their belief that Baptists are a people who believe in the complete trustworthiness of the Bible

and are committed to Jesus Christ as Lord. Likewise, they are a people of a confessional faith rather than of a creedal faith.

The FMB representatives also stated that the principal objective of their Board continues to be evangelism which results in indigenous Baptist churches. This, however, does not exclude the expression of Christian mission through other forms of ministry.

8. Personnel and Projects: The Consultation agreed that wherever possible requests for career personnel and projects involving volunteer personnel should be arranged in Consultation with SBC missionaries, Unions, and/or the European Baptist Federation.

9. Urgent issues: The Consultation heightened the group's awareness of urgent issues in Europe today such as, secularism, nominalism, religious bigotry, mass migration, the growth of non-Christian religions, and ethnic conflicts. The participants recognized the need to tackle these issues and to share the insights gained on a global basis.

10. Future action: The members of the EBF delegation recognized that, while this agreement is made on behalf of the EBF, it is not binding on individual Unions. It is hoped, however, that it will encourage Unions to proceed with confidence in developing further cooperation with the FMB.

Final agreement: It was agreed that this document will be submitted for ratification to the EBF Council, Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 1992, and to the next FMB trustee meeting, Oct. 12-14, 1992. Both bodies have since ratified the agreement. □

HMB trustees approve budget, appoint missionaries

By Martin King
For Baptist Press

ATLANTA — Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board approved a new budget and organizational structure, as well as appointed 30 missionaries.

Meeting in regular session, board members discussed at length and subsequently approved a 1993 budget of slightly more

than \$86 million, which is less than a one percent increase over the 1992 budget. Discussion centered around the proposed budget being reduced since its mailing to members the previous month. Several members questioned why the proposed budget was reduced when the board appeared to be in a very healthy financial position with several

million dollars in reserve.

Board member Wendell Estep, senior pastor of First Church, Columbia, S.C., said he understood the agency's need to have sufficient working capital. "However, we're not in the banking business. I would much rather have the money out in the field rather than in the bank."

HMB President Larry Lewis

agreed all available funds must be put to work on the field, and acknowledged the financial report for the first nine months indicates receipts over budget and expenditures under budget. He cautioned, however, that a positive bottom-line at this time of the year can be misleading.

"It's like looking at your bank balance the day after payday and

believing you have a lot of money without considering the bills you have to pay tomorrow and next week," Lewis said. "We still have a lot of budget needs to meet before the end of the year." HMB planners project 97 percent of 1992 receipts from the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions already have been received, he said.

The budget was approved overwhelmingly. Board chairman Ron Phillips, pastor of Central Church, Hixson, assured members the administrative committee and HMB administration understood concerns expressed. "We hear you. And during the December meeting of the administrative committee we will again review the budget and will recommend restoring the cuts if it is warranted at that time."

During the meeting the board also appointed 30 home missionaries, approved the endorsement of 47 Southern Baptist chaplains, elected five staff to vacant positions, and approved several organizational changes.

Accrediting executive says agency respects diversity

Baptist Press

LOUISVILLE — Educational standards — not theological stances — are the primary focus of the agency which accredits more than 200 theological schools, including the Southern Baptist Convention's six seminaries, the agency's executive director emphasized.

The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada does not penalize an institution for being either too conservative or too liberal, said James L. Waits in an interview at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Budget correction

In last week's issue, an error appeared in the convention preview story.

The correct figure for the reduction of Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program allocation is \$424,364, or four percent. The allocation is \$9,739,066, down from the 1992 allocation of \$10,163,430. A substantially larger decrease was inadvertently picked up from another line in the summary.

The reduction is a result of the reduced 1993 proposed TBC budget compared to the 1992 budget. □

"That would violate our own fundamental principle of association," he said following a fall convocation address at the Louisville, Ky., seminary. "This is a group of free schools joining voluntarily into association with one another for peer institutional relationships."

Southern Baptist interest in accreditation issues has increased in recent years as controversies have swirled around control of seminary governing boards by conservative trustees. Dramatic changes at two seminaries prompted ATS investigations.

Earlier this year, ATS placed Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., on probation for two years. ATS representatives made a "focused visit" to Southern Seminary in 1990. The visiting team, however, later reported many of the trustee actions that prompted the visit had been corrected and recommended ATS take no official action toward the school.

Waits would not comment about specific situations regarding Southern Baptist seminaries. However, he said in general schools run afoul of accrediting agencies when they fail to follow due processes outlined in their own mission statements. "They

become subject to surging ideas or politics or some personal idiosyncrasy and then their mission gets skewed and their procedures and processes gets skewed," he said. "The purpose of accreditation is to make sure there is due process consistent with pre-set standards of procedure."

ATS member schools might comprise the most pluralistic and theologically diverse religious organization in North America, Waits said.

"ATS tries to be respectful of those traditions and tries to be very clear about allowing an in-

dividual institution to formulate its own mission statement which grows out of its theology and its confessional stance," he said, noting ATS members range from the very conservative seminaries to the most liberal university-based divinity schools.

Schools can change their mission statements and confessional stances, said Waits, a United Methodist minister and former dean at Emory University's Candler School of Theology in Atlanta. He stressed, however, "those kind of changes should take place in a deliberative fashion . . ." □

Kentucky Baptists to consider CP

Associated Baptist Press

LOUISVILLE — Kentucky Baptists will vote in November on a proposal that would allow churches to participate in their state convention whether or not those congregations contribute financially to the work of the national Southern Baptist Convention.

The proposal would change the way Kentucky Baptists define denominational cooperation.

In order to qualify for full representation in the annual Kentucky Baptist Convention, current guidelines require that a church

contribute to the Cooperative Program, the unified budget that supports Baptist ministries on both the state and national levels.

In recent years, however, some Kentucky Baptists dissatisfied with current leadership of the SBC and its national agencies have protested that policy, saying it forces them to fund national ministries they don't support.

The compromise proposal

would put in place a two-pronged formula for representation that accounts for contributions to either the Cooperative Program or the state convention's budget alone.

The proposal was approved in mid-September by a study committee that has been examining the issue since 1990. It will be presented to the Kentucky Baptist Convention Nov. 10-11. □

Nevada editor's daughter dies

Baptist Press

RENO, Nev. — The nine-year-old daughter of Mike McCullough, editor of the *Nevada Baptist* newsjournal, died Oct. 16 in a Reno hospital.

Nevada Baptist Convention officials said "Maggie" McCullough had entered the hospital Oct. 10 following a toxic reaction to medication for recurring seizures. Throughout the week doctors had

been unable to stabilize her condition. Life support devices were discontinued early Oct. 16 and she died at 8:55 a.m. (PDT).

McCullough, a native of Texas, has been on the staff of the Nevada Baptist Convention since 1982 and editor since mid-1983.

McCullough and his wife, Sarah, also have a son, Jackson, who is seven. □

Veteran missionary Martha Franks dies

For Baptist Press

LAURENS, S.C. — Martha Franks, probably one of the best-known missionaries in Southern Baptist life, died last month of heart and kidney failure after several years of declining health. She was 91.

"Miss Martha's" missionary career spanned a tumultuous 40

years in China and Taiwan. She endured famine, riots, civil war, evacuations, and internment by the Japanese in north China. But she also witnessed one of the great religious awakenings of modern times — the Shantung Revival — as Christianity took root in the region.

Franks then spent a quarter-century "retirement" that was just as active, if not as risky. Known for her vitality, wit, and sharp dress, she was in demand as a missions speaker for decades — especially for young people.

She told a reporter she had worn out 11 Volkswagens driving to speaking engagements — and that was ten years ago. Over the years she also drove vehicles ranging from a Model T to a motor scooter.

Her later life's dream — of starting a retirement and prayer center with fellow missionary retiree Olive Lawton in their hometown of Laurens, S.C. — became the Martha Franks Baptist Retirement Center, now a multi-million-dollar facility. □

Carson-Newman hosts East Tennessee pastors

The East Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference will meet Nov. 5 at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City.

Don Stewart of New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary will provide an overview of "The Sermon on the Mount," the 1993 January Bible Study topic. Oscar Romo of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board will preach during the meeting which will be held from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

A complimentary lunch will be provided by Carson-Newman College. No reservations are needed. □

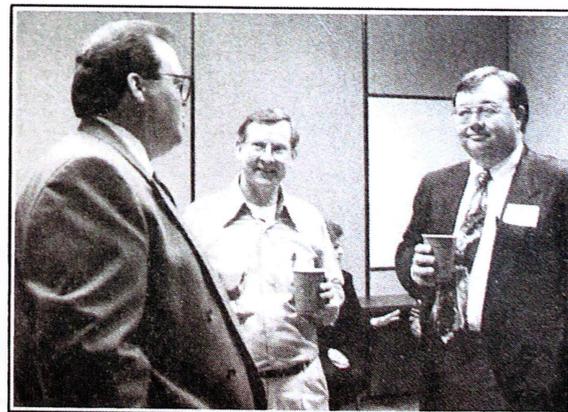
Missions week set at Union

Union University will hold its annual Missions Emphasis Week Oct. 26-30. The experiences of summer student missionaries will be featured in various programs and exhibits.

Catherine Allen, president of the Baptist World Alliance Women's Department, will speak Oct. 26 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. in the G. M. Savage Memorial Chapel. Since 1991 Allen has visited the former Soviet Union twice and has conducted missions confer-

ences in the U.S., Canada, Germany, England, Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Jamaica, Brazil, Nigeria, and Cameroon. She has written six books including *The New Lottie Moon Story* and *Century to Celebrate: History of the Woman's Missionary Union*.

Other events include a student missions exhibit held throughout the week in the Penick Academic Complex. All events are free and open to the public. □



TBC PRESIDENT Ron Phillips, right, attends the Mission Pastor Retreat held in September at the Baptist Center, Brentwood, with Eddie Adams, left, minister of missions, Central Church, Hixson, where Phillips is pastor. They visit with Larry Kirk of the TBC Missions Department. — Photo by Connie Davis

■ about letters to the editor

- Make it concise, no more than 250 words. Letters may be edited for length.
- Name may be withheld for sufficient reason. Include address and phone number.
- Avoid personal attacks on the character or integrity of anyone.
- Send original copy. Form letters and "open" letters will not be published.
- Only one letter in a three-months period per writer will be published.
- If letter does not conform, it will be returned.
- Opinions and ideas expressed in letters are not necessarily shared by the Baptist and Reflector and its staff. □

Thank you, Baptists

What would we do without each other? Never has there been such an outpouring of love in the midst of hurt. You have allowed us the joy of seeing tragedy turned into triumph.

■ Hymns Baptists sing

by William J. Reynolds
Southwestern Seminary professor
Fort Worth, Texas

"Jesus Loves Me"

Anna and Susan Warner, talented daughters of a New York lawyer, lived on Constitution Island in the Hudson River at West Point, New York.

For years the sisters taught a Sunday School class for West Point cadets in their home. Each Sunday the boys would fill the house, sing hymns accompanied by a reed organ, then share in the study of the Bible lesson taught by Anna and Susan.

Both sisters were gifted writers and achieved great success with literary careers. In 1860 they published a novel entitled *Say and Seal*. In the story Johnny Fax, a young lad, was a member of John Linden's Sunday School class.

John and his wife Faith spent much time with Johnny and the three became very close. When a serious illness came upon Johnny, John and Faith ministered to him and comforted him.

As this story developed, the Warner sister wrote the hymn that John sang to Johnny as he cradled the feverish child in his arms. Johnny said quietly, "Sing." John began to sing softly "Jesus loves me! this I know." A few hours later Johnny died.

Karl Barth, the world-renowned theologian, was asked one day what he considered to be the great theological discovery of his life. He smiled and replied:

"Jesus loves me! this I know, For the Bible tells me so." □

If anyone ever doubted that cooperation is still the benchmark of Southern Baptists — Andrew destroys all doubt! Your cooperation has been our salvation. Intentionality has been your practice. Human impulse may create an interest in others but the love of God creates an intention toward others. Only God knows all the good that has been deliberately accomplished. Thank you Southern Baptists — for assistance in disaster relief after Hurricane Andrew.

It is impossible to express all we feel. Please know of our joy in your spirit, our stewardship of your gifts, and our amazement in your generosity. We are better people because of you.

Mark Short, Executive Director
Louisiana Baptist Convention
John Sullivan, Executive Director
Florida Baptist Convention

Appreciates students

I have seen the coverage in your newspaper of the University of Tennessee students' visit to Zambia. It was a great pleasure and privilege to have them come over on such a program. I also wish to take the opportunity to thank all the people involved in instituting the programs and look forward to similar events in the future.

I am interested in receiving copies of the *Baptist and Reflector* including the copy that contains the coverage of the Tennessee team's visit to Zambia.

Eric Chiyeni
Lusaka, Zambia

Thanks for help

I want to express my sincere appreciation to Tennessee Baptists. I am in my second year as a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Through the Tennessee Baptist Foundation I received a scholarship this year to help meet tuition costs of my education. I ministered in several capacities in Tennessee and both my wife and I were raised in Tennessee. It makes me thankful to gain such encouragement and support while following God's call. Thank you for not forgetting about us, Tennessee Baptists.

Ryan E. Wagers, pastor
Poplar Grove Church
Glencoe, Ky.

Living for Christ

A 24-year veteran pastor sat telling me he "burned out and needs to make a "new life and career for himself." On the Sunday he resigned there were over 900 attending. The day he made the decision he had over 40 messages from people who wanted him to do something for them. If more of us would live for Jesus instead of ourselves!

The new covenant of salvation is for those who continue to believe as expressed by the Greek present perfect tense of John 3:16 to mean believing and continuing in your believing. *Vines Expository*

Dictionary translates "pisteuo" the same word in Greek for the present, past, and future tenses with the English words believe, trust, and entrusted.

In John 1:50 the present tense is used to translate Jesus' remarks to Nathanael, the future tense in English, will trust, is used to translate in Luke 16:11, the middle of the parable of the shrewd manager. While the past tense is used by the translator of, "pisteuo" meaning, "entrusted," in I Timothy 1:11.

The glorious Gospel of Jesus entrusted to all believers is not being fully explained to those who are called because our lives do not compare well to the disciples of the New Testament.

In the June 15 paper there was a Sunday School Board summary titled "How to Become a Christian." Does the Sunday School Board have such a summary describing what it means to live like a Christian, for reprint?

Harry Grothjahn
Maryville

■ The Sunday School Board prints in its curriculum a simple message about how to become a Christian because the products have wide distribution. Many may be read by non-Christians. The message also can be used by Christians as we witness. — Editor

Giving examined

Although I am only an acquaintance of Fred Steelman, I consider him a friend. As such I respond to his letter (10/14/92) regarding the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Baptists have always believed in autonomy of the local church. The church has the right to self-governance. This autonomy is one of the basic principles on which Baptists are founded.

There are SBC churches that exercise their right to local autonomy, choosing to support the Cooperative Program and other meaningful ministries through the CBF. Some in the SBC, however, say (or imply) that you cannot participate in the SBC, participate in the TBC, and be included in decision-making, unless you give solely to the CP. If true, where is the church's autonomy to decide the use of its resources in ministries?

Bro. Steelman even proffers that the CBF group has "wronged this denomination by siphoning off support and establishing their own entity." This mistaken understanding saddens me because we, as a body of Baptists, are all working to share the Gospel. The SBC does not have a monopoly on sharing the Gospel. There are many ministry opportunities. The CBF is just another means to support such ministries, some within SBC structures, and some new ministries. How can money be "siphoned off" from work of the Lord when the monies are used for that work?

Is "divided denominational loyalty" an issue? What about SBC churches that are dually aligned with other denomina-

tions? There are churches aligned with the American Baptist Convention (our brethren we separated with over slavery in 1845) and perhaps others. Are they less loyal because they financially support other Baptist work? What about Southern Baptist churches that support non-SBC missionaries, schools, and seminaries (i.e., Luther Rice, Mid-America)? Are they disloyal?

We need to remember our history as an autonomous body and continue searching for new ways to minister for the cause of Christ as Baptist, not just Southern Baptist. Let's not draw lines but hold hands and work together where we can for the glory of Christ.

David W. Olive
Southern Baptist Seminary
Louisville, Ky.

Not a board

It was shocking to me, a Southern Baptist for 61 years, to see a reference to "the full deacon board" in the Baptist Press article about the resignation of Joel Gregory from First Church, Dallas. I have been taught and have believed that the deacons of a church are not called a deacon board because they aren't such. The article spoke of the Fellowship of Deacons as the designation given by the church itself.

In light of the "massacre" of two great employees of Baptist Press and the appointing of new personnel by the Executive Committee one would hope that those working for the Baptist Press would at least know the proper designations common among Southern Baptists. A deacon is not a member of a board of directors at the church but a part of a body of deacons who serve the Lord and his church.

I shouldn't have been surprised as I was since one of the leaders of our convention said that the pastor runs the church! I'd always believed the Lord ran the church!

J. Victor Brown
Nashville

Florida gratitude

From a Miamian to Southern Baptists (Tennessee Baptists), thank you. How can we ever express the gratitude we feel for you. Never have I been so proud to be a Southern Baptist!

My husband and I were on the first available flight back home to Miami after the storm (Andrew). We flew into Miami, the city of lights, at midnight. Looking south from the plane, all we could see was an eerie blackness. It chilled my soul. Had we but known Southern Baptists already were out in that blackness with feeding stations, materials, and supplies — and most of all love and hope!

Before the storm hit, my husband had been called as interim pastor of First Church, Homestead. His first Sunday was to be the last Sunday in August — the Sunday after the storm hit.

We went to Homestead, trying

to find members of the church. The ones we found were living in partial homes — if they had a house at all. We went to the church — parts were still standing. We brushed aside enough debris to open the door so we could squeeze inside. The pulpit Bible had been left open to the book of Ezra. God had told Ezra to rebuild. It couldn't have looked more hopeless to Ezra than Homestead looked to us then.

Walking through that rubble came two men. They put out their hands and said, "We're Southern Baptists, and we are here to help." They were angels!

These angels, men and women, came in trucks, vans, semis, cars, and planes. They have come from all across the country — slept on the floor, brought equipment, food, food stations. But most of all they brought hope and courage.

I do not know how to say thank you for all you have done. But I have thanked God for you over and over. We are really one, you know.

Kathryn Ray
Miami, Fla.

Action noted

I noticed the news brief regarding Americans United selecting Barry Lynn as the new executive director (Oct. 7th *Baptist and Reflector*). He was described as a civil liberties activist. The article should have stated American Civil Liberties Union activist! He has defended child pornography as a first amendment right.

This is significant to any church considering giving to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The CBF Vision 2000 plan gives to Americans United for Separation of Church and State as part of their ethics ministry. Do we need to know anything else to see the direction of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship?

A. G. Buckles, pastor
Springdale Church
Kingsport

Church newsletters needed by paper

The inauguration of "Tennessee Sampler" in the *Baptist and Reflector* three months ago has proven to be a winner.

The new feature quickly became one of the best-read features in the paper, and we want to please our readers.

If your church is not sending the newsletter to our office, please put us on your mailing list. We want to get more mail. The newsletters sometime contain valuable news items from the local church — and tips about upcoming events that often are newsworthy. It will also give our staff opportunity to read the personal "writings" of the pastor and other staff members.

Please add the *Baptist and Reflector* to the mailing list — and we'll take it from there. □

Church growth – a happening that takes planning

Baptist churches continue to rank church growth as one of the most important considerations in the life of the body. Books about church growth proliferate the literature market.

There is no lack of church growth "experts." And there are plenty of buyers. A book that claims ownership of proven church growth secrets is usually dog-eared before sundown.

In the exciting study book prepared by Henry Blackaby and Claude King, *Experiencing God*, a valid point is made about playing follow the leader. Using the example of Moses' encounter with God when the bush burned without being consumed, they ask if God ever passed along that particular experience to anyone else.

God seems to be particular about fitting the experience with the person or the body. Churches will find better success at finding out where God is working, joining him at that place, and applying his plan for that undertaking – for that church. He has a unique plan for each unique church. We can't all do business the same way. When we do, the market becomes flooded with plans that worked elsewhere – but failed when we tried it.

Though the temptation is great to "do it" like that great church that is growing rapid-

ly (often with hidden flaws or false security), resistance is often the real elixir for real growth.

Last week we touched on five of the ten church growth principles discovered through a study by *Decision* magazine. The study found that a group of "great" churches had remarkable growth. The ten principles were held in common. We discussed prayer, witnessing, joy, conversions, and Scripture.

The other five principles:

Preaching – The preacher was prepared with Bible-based sermons well-outlined, and effective use of illustrations. The message was paramount and the preacher was merely the spokesman.

Outreach – The churches were heavily involved in local and worldwide mission activity. While the community was not neglected, emphasis was also placed on hands-on missions away from home – including experiences in foreign lands as possible. Senior citizens, resort missions, and inner-city work were special interests. Fifty percent of budgeting went toward missions.

Family life – The congregations cultivated genuine, warm church family fellowship. Deacon family ministry was one successful method. No matter the size of the body nor the rate of growth, there was the

impression of a small, intimate family, as led by the pastoral leaders.

Leadership – While there may be some mistaken idea that success in church growth comes only when leadership is given to a prima donna complex, the study found this to be absent in the group studied. There seemed to be a reciprocal spirit that dominated the pastor to congregation relationship. The gracious attitude exemplified by Christ with his first disciples set the standard. Grace does not mean absence of accountability and sincerity, and the churches showed these attributes in the churchwide relationships.

Love – "The most important quality common to all the churches," the commentary said, "was the spirit of love that embraced everyone who walked through the church doors, regardless of background, status, skin color, or lifestyle.

"There were no walls or false faces; people seemed eager to bear each other's burdens. The pastor's love for the people was expressed, accepted, and returned."

We could easily add to this summary, "and the greatest of these is love." There would be good reason to say it.

The rock-solid foundation of all these principles is *love*, the kind of love exhibited when masks are replaced with faces and hearts displaying the love of Christ. And the church will surely grow. □

■ one word more

By Wm. Fletcher Allen editor

Colors of the heart

What happens around the state of Tennessee in October is often more than the minds can imagine or the heart can grasp.

I say it again, as I have done for almost three full decades. There is something delightfully special about October. God's people called Baptists help to make it so.

This is the time when most of our 68 associations meet in annual session. Bravo – would be a good word to use in explaining the excitement of the season.

Messages of missions, words of evangelistic effort, ministries explained – these are the main emphases. But words of encouragement, reports of local involvement, music from the heart, prayers for the hopes and dreams, and for vision – these are part of the essence of the meetings.

I turned toward home one evening last week, heading northwest from Chattanooga to cross Mont-eagle. I had been among Tennessee Baptist friends at the Hamilton County meeting. It was a typical associational meeting with some extras thrown in.

The setting sun's red-gold lit the sky and sent the splendor of colossal color shimmering across the Tennessee River and Nickajack Lake. From behind Lookout the colors spilled in glad array.

I marveled at the soft glory of God's own quiet benediction. Amen!

The same "planned" adventure is taking place across our state convention this month, in churches from Shelby to Holston, from Sevier to Western District. God's people are meeting to report on what they are about, to praise, to worship.

I will see more glorious sunsets and a few sunrises, plains and mountains, the storied splendor of God's handiwork. As poet Archibald Rutledge said, all of these are some of life's extras.

Sometimes in the midst of glory and splendor, a grateful heart thanks the Father. He knows glad hearts. Life's extras are life's blessings also. □



ALLEN

Congress passes bill on sports gambling

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON – Congress took time in the hurried, closing days of its session to pass legislation preventing the spread of state-sponsored gambling based on professional and amateur sports.

The Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act (S. 474) will prohibit states not already engaged in such practices from authorizing or operating lotteries or other games based on sporting events. The bill also bans such gambling on Indian lands.

The Senate passed the bill Oct. 7, two days after the House of Representatives amended and okayed it. Both did so by voice vote. The Senate adjourned Oct. 8. The House adjourned the next day.

While the bill's supporters have received no clear signal what President George Bush will do with the bill, "they expect it to be signed" by him, a congressional spokesperson said. The president has ten days after he receives the bill to act on it. As of Oct. 14, he had not received the legislation, a White House spokesperson said.

"Congress has bucked a national trend in favor of more and more gambling by passing this legislation," said James A. Smith, director of government relations for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Com-

mission. "State-sponsored sports gambling would no doubt have been the wave of the future unless Congress acted. It's not often that Congress does the right thing when it comes to moral concerns, but in this case they scored a winning touchdown in the final minutes of the game.

"It is appropriate for Congress to step in and restrict state-sponsored sports gambling in light of the national scope of sports," Smith said. "Allowing

our national pastimes to become marketing agents for the gambling industry would have had an especially pernicious effect on our children."

Smith testified in support of the bill before a Senate subcommittee in June 1991.

The bill, which is effective Jan. 1, 1993, will not impact forms of sports gambling already legal in Arizona, Delaware, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, and Oregon. □

■ just for today
By Fred Wood
pastor emeritus
Eudora Church, Memphis

Start with a smile –

Someone once asked a lady how old her grandchildren were. She replied with a smile, "The doctor is four and the lawyer is six."

Take this truth with you –

Goals are great stabilizers for our lives, but they should be goals for ourselves, not for others. Discipline is necessary to achieve our aims. The person who can discipline himself has achieved the greatest mastery. He can win any battle and can arrive at any destination he desires.

Memorize this Scripture –

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

Pray this prayer –

Lord, help me to never be satisfied with things that are easy to come by. Help me to resolve that I will not spend my life collecting trinkets and neglecting treasures. May I avoid the "faultry pearls" and limitations of the real thing that leave us discontented. □

Daily prayer requests for Chile/Tennessee Partnership



Oct.

- 22 – Betty Wiseman of Nashville who is in Temuco this month assisting with church and school recreational programs.
- 23 – The people who are making decisions at Sion Baptist Church in Talca where some of our volunteers have served.
- 24 – The 16-18 MKs (missionary kids) who face coming to the United States to begin college.
- 25 – Retired missionary John Parker on his birthday.
- 26 – Karla Vandergriff of Knoxville who is serving as a semester missionary at the El Sembrador Baptist Church/School in Temuco.
- 27 – The salvation of Manuel Sanchez.
- 28-30 – Cookeville pastor Ken Altom, who will be leading an evangelism team, and for team members as they prepare to leave on the 30th for Vina del Mar, where they will serve through Nov. 10.
- 31 – Missionary Doris Dyches on her birthday.

Rape victim's mother turns tragedy into crisis ministry

By Lee Holloway
For Baptist Press

OAK RIDGE — Emily Herrod takes "crisis pregnancy" personally.

When her youngest daughter became pregnant as a result of a rape in another state, Emily lived through the trauma with her.

When her daughter carried the child to term and then gave him up for adoption, Emily shared the agony.

When time, distance, and God's grace had brought healing, Emily began a ministry to others experiencing a crisis pregnancy or abuse.

The Women's Crisis Center opened in April, offering free pregnancy tests, counseling, information, and referrals. Emily has served as interim director; a search is under way for a permanent director.

Book details trauma faced by pastor's family

For Baptist Press

OAK RIDGE — She could have been anyone's daughter, home alone while her parents attended a social function.

No one saw the young man slip through the sliding patio door. She did not know he was in the house until she looked up and saw him standing in her bedroom. Twila Herrod was not quite 16 that night in May 1989 when she was raped by an assailant.

Her story is unusual, however, because she is a Southern Baptist pastor's daughter and because of the way she and her family dealt with the aftermath of the tragic event.

As the wife of Ron Herrod, pastor of Central Church, Emily has enlisted volunteers to staff the center. Volunteers receive 12 hours of training in rape counseling, crisis pregnancy counseling, and general counseling.

"We emphasize to the volunteers that they are not professional counselors," Emily stresses. "They are to be there for people, to help them find a way out of their problem, usually through appropriate referrals."

Emily herself took a course in rape counseling at a community college in the aftermath of her daughter's experience. "I wanted to gain a better understanding of rape for myself and my daughter. I also wanted to know how to apply my experience to helping others."

As she learned that rape was more about power than sex, Emily found she gained some



EMILY HERROD points to a sign at the Oak Ridge center.

understanding of the man who attacked her daughter, even feeling sorry for him.

"I find I still have some feelings about the things that happened to my daughter and our family. I really hope those feelings never completely leave because they

privacy will be worth it, however, if their testimony helps others in similar circumstances.

Twila had a baby boy and placed him for adoption with an agency that allowed her to stipulate the adoptive parents must be committed Christians.

The Herrod family has established Bonded Love Ministries as an umbrella for their speaking, counseling, and the crisis center.

Herrod says the family has learned two things beyond question from their experiences: "God's promises are true, not just for preaching, and God's grace is sufficient when you really need it." □

mail survey of similar centers in other cities, it is fairly typical for such programs to start slowly. She expects client activity to be up to about 15 a week within a year.

The center has relied primarily on items in the newspaper and word of mouth advertising to let the community know of its services. "Telling just a few girls at the high school helps get the word around pretty well," Emily points out.

Even with a medical doctor on its elected board, the Oak Ridge center's work is "sort of like first aid." Emily acknowledges, but she believes it fills a significant need, especially in offering alternatives to abortion.

"Many people see abortion as a quick, easy fix, but nothing is that simple. A person who goes that route keeps paying for it in various ways for the rest of her life."

And Emily cannot forget that without an abortion alternative her daughter's son — her first grandchild — would not be alive today. □

Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union CHALLENGE ... RENEWED ... SENT

Annual Session

November 16, 1992

Gatlinburg Convention Center, Mills Auditorium

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- 9 - 10 a.m. — Brunch honoring Carol Pharris, Tennessee WMU President 1987-92; Mills Auditorium exhibit area; Tickets — \$5
- 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — Session — Mills Auditorium
- 2 - 3:15 p.m. — Prayer Retreat directed by Judy Trivette, Chile/Tennessee Prayer Coordinator
- 6:30 p.m. — Missions Extravaganza featuring:
 - Message by Keith Parks
 - Missions Presentations
 - Special guests — Mission Friends leaders, new officers
 - Italian dinner; Tickets — \$12

Registration deadline for brunch and dinner is Nov. 9
For more information, call Tennessee WMU at (615) 371-2038

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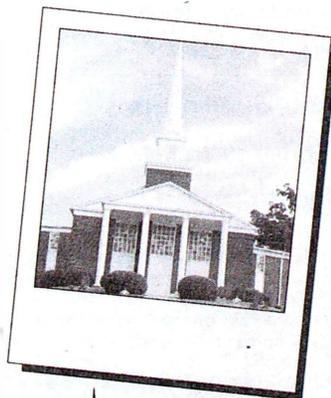
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Savannah layman has no excuses for not serving

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

SAVANNAH — Nelson Williams doesn't accept excuses for not serving the Lord — not even blindness.

Though the 64-year-old layman went blind about six years ago and has had numerous health problems since, he still serves as a deacon and Sunday School teacher at Southside Church in Savannah.

While it would be easy to blame God and doctors for his loss of sight, Williams blames neither. He lost his sight as a reaction from radiation treatments on a tumor.

"The doctors did not do anything that was not normal pro-

cedure, nor do I feel any anger toward God," Williams said.

After serving the Lord for 52 years, Williams has no intentions of stopping now. "I have tried to be faithful. The Lord has done so much for me," he observed.

Williams, a former Sunday School director at the church, began teaching a class two years ago, along with his wife, Jean.

The couple begins preparing for the next week's lesson on Sunday after they have just taught a class. On Sunday afternoons, Jean reads the Bible verses to her husband that will be used the next week. She then reads part of the lesson each day during the week.

On Sunday nights the couple attends a Discipleship Training

class taught by Southside Pastor Benny Taylor. He teaches the next week's Sunday School lesson as a training session for teachers.

In addition, Williams gets the *Baptist and Reflector* on tape (See separate story) and listens to the lesson each week. "We appreciate getting the paper on tape. It's been a big help," he said.

The couple enjoys serving the Lord together and they take their class seriously.

When it's time for Sunday School to begin, the Williams begin teaching whether everyone has arrived or not. Williams is a firm believer that Sunday School is not a social club, but is a time for Bible study. There're other

times for fellowship, he noted.

When the couple began the class no one was coming. "We went through with the class," the couple recalled, adding that "people started coming." The class now averages between six-ten members in attendance each week, and has had a high attendance of 18.

The couple takes no credit for the success of the class. "We're common ordinary people. The Lord has to help us out," they agreed.

The Williams' are firm believers in prayer. Williams described his wife as "a prayer warrior," noting they pray daily for cancer victims, missionaries, or-

ganizations, and of other needs. Both acknowledge "prayer is the main thing that got us through this (Williams' blindness).

The couple has earned the respect of their pastor. "They're a support and strength to me," said Benny Taylor.

Williams, despite his ordeals over the past six years, looks at the positive things that have happened.

He noted people have told him he has been an inspiration to them for his willingness to continue serving the Lord.

Williams also noted he has grown personally through the experience. "This has taught me patience," he said. □



PASTOR BENNY TAYLOR, left, appreciates the dedication of Nelson and Jean Williams who serve in a variety of roles at Southside Church.

TBC department aids the blind

Nelson Williams is one of about 80 people in Tennessee who "read" their paper each week through a tape provided by the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Telecommunications Department.

The tape is provided free of charge to people who are considered legally blind. Jarvis Hearn, director of the department, noted there are about 11,000 people in the state who are blind and another 60,000 who are considered visually impaired.

In the ten years the department has been providing the service, the number of tapes sent weekly has increased from about 25 to 80. "But we're not

reaching a thimble full of people who would benefit from the *Baptist and Reflector*," Hearn said.

Despite continual efforts to make directors of missions and pastors aware of the ministry, there is a problem in obtaining names of people who could use the service, Hearn said.

He attributed part of the problem to stereotyping: "Many people see the blind as those who carry white canes with red tips or are led by Seeing Eye dogs. Yet, a number of individuals lose their sight at the onset of age or because of an accident," he said.

Hearn believes that a person, whether blind or not, has a right to know about events in Ten-

nessee Baptist life. "We try to keep the blind abreast of happenings with Baptists both in Tennessee and around the nation," he said.

Lack of space on a 60-minute tape prevents the entire paper from being read, Hearn said, noting he reads the first four or five paragraphs of major articles. Items read in entirety include letters to the editor, editorials, and Sunday School lessons, all of which are popular with the listeners, Hearn said.

For information about the program, or to add someone who is blind to the department's mailing list, contact Hearn at (615) 371-2028. □

Knoxville students get glimpse of where Jesus walked

For Baptist and Reflector

"Walking down the steps of Caiphas' house in complete darkness, we arrived at the bottom to see the place Christ was kept the night before his crucifixion. How lonely he must have felt here in total darkness, with the people above cursing."

"I remember praying at the 'Wailing Wall' in the old city of Jerusalem and knowing that God heard all the different languages that were spoken there."

These are but a few of the memories of Robby Wilson and Garner Dewey, two University of Tennessee, Knoxville, students who served under the sponsorship of the UTK Baptist Student Union at the Baptist Village in Petah Tiqva, Israel. They worked as camp counselors, lifeguards, and maintenance workers at this unique camp for both Arab and Israeli children.

"God helped me to deal with some of my prejudices," said Dewey, a member of First Church, Knoxville. "People simply are not like what we think. We can't classify all Arabs as the same or all Jews as the same."

The two men felt it was helpful to hear both the Arab and the Israeli perspective of the Middle East conflict. Wilson, of Central Church, Bearden, in Knoxville, said, "Not all Arabs want Israel destroyed. Many Arabs want to live there and work to improve the country."

Before his departure, Wilson spoke of his parents' concern after they read a news story about an Arab man in Israel who killed a young girl with a sword. "When we arrived in Israel we were told that another Arab man lost his life trying to save the little girl, but that information wasn't included in the U.S. news stories. There are always two sides to a coin," Wilson said. "Stubborn defensiveness of one position solves nothing."

Dewey was impressed by the effects of war even years later. "It's shocking to see how desolate and destructive war continues to be," he said. "I had the opportunity to visit the Museum of the Holocaust," remarked Dewey. "It was heartbreaking to see how inhumane we can be to our fellow man. The three girls giving the tour were so loving and kind. I

was appalled to think that someone would want to kill people like them just because they were of a certain race."

At the end of the summer Dewey was worried about having enough money for his return to the United States. The Arab counselors at the camp heard of his fears and contributed money for Dewey's trip. "Even though they really didn't have anything to give, they still had enough to

share," commented Dewey.

Dewey said the summer experience "forced me to look at my own religiosity. I'm in the process of thinking what really is my personal faith and not what is handed down to me by culture and custom."

Wilson said "because of this summer I'm different; I've grown. I've become more sensitive. God has shown me what he is capable of even in the hard

times," he said.

Both men were proud to serve God as missionaries. They learned to be more expressive of their faith and to share more. "World problems are extensions of individual problems," said Dewey. "The world cannot be changed unless individuals are changed and only God through Jesus Christ can make us into what we ought to be," he added. □

Belmont hosts 'College for a Weekend'

Belmont University's annual College For A Weekend is scheduled for Oct. 30-31. The overnight event is designed for high school seniors who want to experience college life without the pressures of serious study. Guidance on enrollment procedures and college career choices will be provided in a fun-filled atmosphere for students to get to know the college way of life.

The weekend begins Friday at 3 p.m. with registration. The evening's activities include dinner and a tour of the Belmont campus.

After breakfast on Saturday,

future college students will learn valuable information about the admissions and financial aid process and take a look at Belmont's diverse academic offerings. Simulated classes will give a taste of higher education. Parents are welcome to attend the information

and class sessions.

The fee is \$30 which includes meals, lodging, and special events. For more information call Belmont's admissions office at (615) 385-6785. □

Retired TBC pastor Denver Hall dies

Retired Tennessee pastor Denver S. Hall, 75, of Memphis, died Oct. 2 at his home.

A graduate of Union University, Jackson, Hall served as pastor of West Frayser Church, Memphis, from 1956 till his retirement in

1979. He was pastor of several Tennessee churches during his college years and served a church in Ripley before accepting the call of West Frayser Church.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, and two children. □

Trustees have quick and 'quiet' meeting at Southeastern

Baptist Press

WAKE FOREST, N.C. — In what was described as a "nice and quiet" meeting, trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary met Oct. 12-13 to adopt a long-range plan for the seminary, discuss future funding concerns, and elect new officers. Intertwined with the trustee meeting was the inauguration of Southeastern's fifth president, Paige Patterson.

Outgoing trustee chairman Roger Ellsworth, from Benton, Ill., said the adoption of the long-range planning committee report was the most significant agenda item discussed in this meeting.

"This will be our guiding document for the next five years," Ellsworth said. "The staff worked very hard on this and the trustees are very pleased with it."

Objectives of the long-range plan include the maintenance and further development of ministry-driven educational programs, the promotion of student development, and the enlargement of the seminary's financial support. The

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) cited the lack of long-range planning as one reason for placing Southeastern on academic probation last year.

During his report to the trustees, Southeastern president Paige Patterson said the next 36 months would be "most critical"

for the seminary due to anticipated funding deficits. He said he estimates an additional \$350,000 a year are needed to meet accreditation requirements such

as additional faculty and library enhancements.

Southeastern faces a three year step-down in SBC Cooperative Program funds beginning in August 1993. □

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Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention

TenneScene ■ the people, their work

■ the work

■ The congregation of **National Avenue Church, Memphis**, donated 30 choir robes to missionaries Gene and Melanie Vincent who serve in Argentina. The Vincents, who are from Millington, are living in the missionary house of **Highland Heights Church, Memphis**. The robes will be used by the choir of the Baptist Church of Villaguay in the state of Entre Rios.

■ the churches

■ Fall revival will be Oct. 25-28 at **Spring Creek Road Church, Chattanooga**. Odell Clay will be evangelist.

■ Members of the **Korean of Nashville Church** recently celebrated the church's 15th anniversary with the dedication of a new educational building.

■ Cal Thomas, nationally syndicated columnist and television and radio commentator, will be guest speaker Oct. 25 at **Two Rivers Church, Nashville**. Also, the church will sponsor Judgment House, an alternative to Halloween haunted houses. Judgment House will feature a series of dramas showing life after death for two teenagers.

■ Dan Lawler will preach on high attendance day Oct. 25 at **Harsh Chapel Church, Nashville**. A covered dish luncheon will follow morning worship.

■ Revival will be Oct. 25-30 at **Lucy Church, Millington**. Billy Smith, pastor of Ridgeway Church, Memphis, will be evangelist.

■ Fred Steelman will lead fall revival Oct. 25-28 at **Ridge-dale Church, Chattanooga**.

■ Larry Kirk of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Missions Department will lead revival Nov. 1-4 at **Edgefield Church, Nashville**. Ken Go-forth will lead music.

■ Russell Dilday will speak at a one-day revival Oct. 25 at **Raleigh Church, Memphis**.

■ A new fellowship hall is under construction at **New Hope Church, Readyville**.

■ Members of **Riverdale Church, Murfreesboro**, recently broke ground for a new building.

■ Revival will be Oct. 25-28 at **First Church, Halls**. Rollin DeLap will be evangelist.

■ The congregation of **Haw-thorne Church, Dyersburg**, will celebrate the church's 40th anniversary Oct. 25 with home-coming. Former pastor Bill Palmer will bring the message.

■ The building housing **Lenox Church, Lenox**, is being remodeled. The auditorium will be larger with a baptistry and new seats.

■ Revival will be Oct. 25-28 at **Faith Church, Smithville**. Charlie Ivy will be evangelist.

■ The Crosspoint youth ministry of **Haywood Hills Church, Nashville**, will sponsor the third annual youth prayer breakfast for a drug free America Oct. 25, 7:30-9 a.m.

■ the leaders

■ Enon Church, Halls, Pastor **Randy Kellough** has resigned

to accept the pastorate of **Barker's Chapel Church, Friendship**.

■ **T. C. Thurman** is the new pastor of **Fort Hudson Church, Dyersburg**.

■ Members of **Macedonia Church, Ripley**, recently welcomed new pastor **Wayne Rowan**. He was pastor of **Oakwood Church, Milan**.

■ **Williams Chapel, Halls**, called **Danny Hutcherson** as pastor.

■ **Nathan Powers** is the new youth pastor at **Eagleville Church, Eagleville**.

■ **Fulton Robertson**, director of missions emeritus of **Hardeman County Association**, which he served for 24 years, is interim director of missions of **Fayette Association**. **Robertson, Bolivar**, also served **Cumberland, Stewart, and Truett** associations.

■ **Jerry Osborne** is the new pastor of **Malone's Chapel, Alexandria**. He has been serving the church as interim pastor.

■ **Rick Dinkins** has accepted the pastorate of **Cherokee Hills Church, Morristown**. He was pastor of **Oakland Church, Rutledge**.

■ Members of **East Chattanooga Church, Chattanooga**, recently welcomed new pastor **Wayne Butts**.

■ **First Church, Carthage**, recently called **Bill Sikes** as minister to students. He formerly served at **Two Rivers Church, Nashville**.

■ **Roscoe Harless** recently retired as minister of visitation from **Central Church, Fountain City, Knoxville**.

■ **H. D. Hudson** is serving as interim pastor of **Russwood Church, Springville**.

■ the people

■ **Bluff City Church, Bluff City**, ordained three deacons Sept. 27. Those ordained were **David Clark, Charles Kirkpatrick, and Lon Tobin**.

■ **Butch Daniel, Don Williams and Chris Matthews** were ordained to the deacon ministry of **Oakland Church, Rutledge**.

■ **Harsh Chapel Church, Nashville**, ordained **Larry Cravens and Chris Kriatsas** as deacons.

■ Eighteen new deacons have been ordained at **Central Church, Bearden, Knoxville**. They are **Mike Barton, Rob Christenson, Craig Colquitt, Clint Eskew, Russ Ford, Ken Garner, Stephen King, Ron Leadbetter, Kevin Ledden, Byron Maddox, Jim Neel, Kenneth O'Kelley, Steve Parrish, Tom Prine, Charles Purkey, Mike Roberts, Vaughn Shanklin, and Gary Ubben**. In addition, two senior deacons, **Robert E. Acker and James T. Miles**, were honored with the title of deacons for life.

■ **Tulip Grove Church, Old Hickory**, ordained the following men as deacons Oct. 11: **Carl Maclin, Rodger Byrd, Jeff Mathis, Jim Newton, and Gus Reyes**.

■ **Phillip Barham, Mark Layne, and Robert McBroom** were ordained as deacons Oct. 4 at **West Jackson Church, Jackson**.

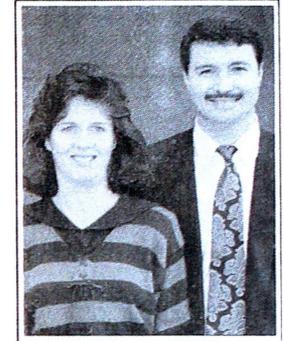
■ **First Church, Erwin**, ordained **David Davis** to the dea-

con ministry Oct. 4.

■ **Donnie Webb** was ordained to the deacon ministry of **East Commerce Church, Lewisburg, Oct. 11**.

■ **Ronnie Edwards** was ordained to the Gospel Ministry Oct. 18 at **Hannah's Gap Church, Petersburg**.

■ **Donald Good**, assistant professor of education at **Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City**, has been awarded the college's 1992-93 Teaching Excellence and Leadership Award. He has been a member of the faculty since 1989.



RANDALL RUNIONS, a former pastor in **Lawrence County Association**, was endorsed by the **Southern Baptist Chaplains Commission** to serve as an institutional chaplain in Tennessee. Runions, with wife **Teresa**, serves at **South Central Correctional Facility in Clifton**. Runions was endorsed recently at a service at **Green-Forest Church, Decatur, Ga.** Certificates of endorsement were presented by **Home Mission Board representatives President Larry Lewis, Huey Perry, Lew Burnett, Bill Donovan, and George Pickle**.

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*Figures are for January-December 1991 and were verified through your state convention office and designated gifts to the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, Home Mission Board Accounting Department, and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Based on churches with resident membership of 25 or more.

HMB

HOME MISSION BOARD, INC.

Relief efforts continue in Hawaii one month after hurricane

Baptist Press

HONOLULU — Southern Baptists continue to serve more than 7000 meals daily one month after Hurricane Iniki swept across the island of Kauai, said O. W. Efurud Jr., executive director of the Hawaii Baptist Convention.

"We have a tremendous appreciation for all of the Baptist brothers and sisters who have helped us," Efurud said.

Southern Baptists have two kitchens feeding residents in the damaged areas, Efurud said. Alabama Baptists, which have a partnership with Hawaii Baptists, have sent ten volunteers and carried in a field kitchen, said Reggie Quimby, director of disaster relief ministries for the Alabama Baptist Convention. California Baptists have sent at least 17 volunteers, Efurud said.

Texas Baptist volunteers also carried in a mobile kitchen, said Jim Furgerson, Southern Baptist disaster relief national coordinator for the Brotherhood Commission, which purchased the kitchens.

Hawaii Baptists have been trained to provide disaster relief, he said. "The next time that Guam is hit, or another area in the Pacific is hit, we'll already have a team in the Pacific ready to meet that need."

One feeding unit is at Wiamea Church, where volunteers also are helping residents in the community with their storm-damaged homes, Efurud said. Others are distributing clothing, linens, and

household goods. "I believe that will create a real good feeling among the Wiamea community towards Wiamea Church," he added.

Iniki hit Kauai at about 4 p.m. Sept. 11 with 145 mph sustained winds and gusts of up to 175 mph, said Andrew Chun, lead forecaster with the Central Pacific Hurricane Center in Honolulu. Although it passed over the island in less than a half hour, it is considered one of the strongest on record in the area, Chun said.

Three Southern Baptist churches were damaged as almost no segment of the island was untouched, Efurud said. "When you look around, you have a lot of feel-

ing and compassion for the people who have lost so much." Power is still out to about 30 percent of Kauai, he said.

Efurud said the convention is planning to send Baptist pastors on Iniki to Oahu for some rest later this month. "I know they are suffering losses themselves and a tremendous amount of loss of privacy."

Workers included some people who also had been to relief efforts in south Florida after Hurricane Andrew. Efurud said those volunteers told him they could drive out of the storm damage in Florida, but on the island there was no way to get away from it.

The Hawaii Baptist Convention

is accepting cash donations to assist churches, members, and residents of the communities where the churches are located, Efurud said. "The recovery of Kauai is going to be a long-term situation." □



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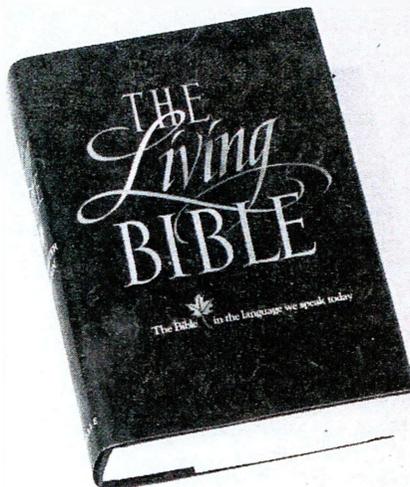
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■ Sunday School lesson commentary

□ Benefits through Christ's death — Bible Book Series for October 25

By Mike Kemper, pastor, Green River Church, Waynesboro

As we study this week, remember that "justification" is God's declaration that believers are made right with God. This is the result of the judicial act of God on the basis of Christ's work whereby the "account" of every believing person is settled, "marked, paid in full!"

Paul began "therefore" (v. 1). It is on the basis of our justification that our account is settled. There are definite benefits to this position we have been given.

We have "peace with God." We were "enemies" (v. 10), but "in Christ" we have peace with God. The sin question has been settled and Jesus has paid the debt with His own blood on Calvary's cross. We do not like the thought of being "the enemy" of God, but that is exactly what we were before we were saved. As long as we remained "in our sin" we were

God's enemy and He was our judge. When we surrender, repenting and confessing our sin, we are made right with God by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Now we have the privilege to know Him as Father.

Next, our benefit is that we have "access to God" (v. 2). This special benefit is possible because of a new relationship we have "in Christ." This honor is reserved by God for justified believers.

A third benefit is "hope" (v. 2). An unsaved person is without hope. A Christian has the gift of hope. This kind of hope as used by Paul is not merely desire of expectation, but complete trust, confidence, and refuge in God.

Believers have the additional benefit of "daily confidence" (vv. 3-4). Not only is our "hope" for the past or future, but we are able to have confidence in the

midst of present trials and troubles of life.

The benefits continue when we realize what we have gained "in Christ." Paul's point was if God did this for us while we were "enemies," how much more will He do for us now that we are His children?! We are "saved" by His death (v. 9), and we are saved by His life (v. 10)!

God's children have the benefit of "atonement" (v. 11). Atonement is basically an Old Testament word and occurs only once in the New Testament. The word means "reconciliation." Back in Leviticus 16:16 we read about the day of atonement. On this special day, the high priest went to first make atonement for his own sins and those of his house, then for the tabernacle, and then for the people. The ceremony included the use of two

goats. The first goat died as a sin offering, just as Jesus died on the cross as an offering for our sin. Then the high priest went on to confess the transgressions of the people over the second goat (the scapegoat), which was then released to bear the sins of the people to a distant place.

In the final section of this chapter, Paul explained how it is that one man's death (Christ's), can overcome sin's penalty and make us right before God. "As by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin" (v. 12).

We can all identify with Adam. Although Adam introduced sin into the world, we have all become guilty and the consequences have been passed on from generation to generation. The curse on Adam is the same curse on all men. We are not all guilty of the same sin as Adam,

but we are all responsible for our own sin and it's penalty of death. Death is separation. Death is both physical and spiritual.

Adam's sin and our sin continue to affect us. But in God's grace we have "the last Adam," Jesus Christ, and by His life, death, and life again, He is able to undo all that the "first Adam" brought

Basic Passage Romans 5:1-21

upon himself. There are indeed many reasons to become a Christian. The benefits are obvious. God sought to show His love to all people by offering peace with Himself; access into the presence of God; hope for past, present, and future; daily confidence in the midst of trials, and reconciliation with God. The benefits far outweigh the negatives! ☐

□ Josiah: King of reforms — Convention Uniform Series for October 25

By Wes Ellis, retired pastor, Forest Hills Church, Memphis

Last week's study was on Solomon, the last king of the united nation. After division of the kingdom, destruction of the northern kingdom, and years of apostasy by kings and people alike, Josiah arrived as the last shining light before the darkness of the Exile.

Contrasting goodness vv.1-8

About 20 kings followed in David's line. Only four were given unqualified approval in the Scriptures — Asa, Jehoshaphat, Hezekiah, and Josiah. Three were wholly condemned — Ahaz, Manasseh, and Amon. Between Josiah's great grandfather Hezekiah and the ascendancy of Josiah came two of the worst — Manasseh and Amon — with more than 57 corrupt years.

Positive influences made Josiah what he was. "The people of the land" preserved his life

when the royal family might have been killed following the assassination of Amon (vv. 24-25). Against the background of wickedness, key people must have taught and influenced him for God and for good — perhaps his mother (II Kings 22:1-2), prophets and priests who became his advisors, and others who were there for him when he became king at age 8.

The moral and religious decline of his own nation and a volatile international situation loomed large. But when Josiah was 16 he aligned himself with the God of David and at 20 began to cleanse the nation of paganism (v. 3). Powerful people with vested interests and recent tradition on their side must have opposed him but could not stop his reforms which were carried out systematically for at least six years (vv. 3-8). Josiah was true to

his knowledge of God.

Condemnation and commendation — vv. 8-28

Reform involves the negative and positive. During the cleansing of the temple, begun by Josiah, "the book of the law of the Lord given by Moses" was discovered. This portion or all of the Pentateuch had been hidden by the priests when worship of God was suppressed decades before. A priest found it, a scribe identified and authenticated it, and Josiah trembled and tore his clothes, for he realized it spoke condemnation of himself and his people (vv. 14-19). God's Word is lost if not studied and honored.

Josiah then commanded, "Go, inquire of the Lord." (v. 20-21). The prophetess Huldah was consulted. Discrimination because of sex was foreign to the spirit of the Old Testament (Judges 4:4; II Samuel 20:16). Religious restric-

tions developed in the 400 years between the testaments.

Huldah spoke the Word of the Lord boldly, pronouncing judgment upon a wayward people. But there was a word of commendation to Josiah. God knew his humble heart (v. 27); he would be spared the devastation that would come upon the beloved city and nation (vv. 26-28).

Basic Passage II Chronicles 34

Standing for right vv. 29-33

Pronouncements of judgment did not deter Josiah from leading the people to return to the Lord and renew their commitments to the covenant. What a spectacular event this must have been! Reform continued, and there was also a great and festive celebration of the Passover (ch. 35).

Josiah did what he could against the encroaching moral darkness and impending judgment. He stood for right and led others to do so. It is written of him that "he did right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the ways of his father David and did not turn aside to the right or to the left." (v. 21).

What are some lessons from this study? We learned the benefits of Godly teachers, the importance of deciding for right and following through, and how the Word of God can be lost. But Josiah's reforms had no lasting effect. The direction of the morals and religious expression of the people was downward. Jeremiah commented upon their shallowness (Jeremiah 11). Paul noted the disappointments of religion without power. But God in Christ filled that void (Romans 1; I Corinthians 1; Hebrews 9). ☐

□ Establish worthy priorities — Life and Work Series for October 25

By James Hutson, pastor, First Church, Rockwood

We continue our study under the theme of Equipping Believers for Breakthrough. This is the fourth lesson focusing on the idea of commitment. Using I Timothy as a Scriptural background, we have studied commitment which requires making a personal response, a committed life-style, and establishing good relationships to things, particularly money.

We are a consumer-oriented society. Few of us are producers. People are not neutral concerning wealth and money. All of us must establish priorities regarding money in our lives. To make a living and to live a worthy life are not synonymous.

Life's goal — Godly contentment vv. 6-8

Twice in these three verses is

the word contentment. Contentment may mean self-mastery or self-regard. But Christian contentment is more. Looking out only for ourselves, our families, and our own interests has little if anything to do with Godliness.

Jesus taught money is the enemy of true contentment (Matthew 6:19-24). Paul echoed the idea in I Timothy 6:10. We must learn to be content with what God has given us and be discontent with all forms of evil.

Peril of riches vv. 9-10

Regarding the peril of riches, Paul referred to those who are grasping to become rich. There are three steps in this grasping which produce spiritual decline. There is the lure (snare), the hurtful lust, and finally the total destruction. The words destruc-

tion and perdition suggest an irretrievable loss.

Verses 10 reads, "For a root of every kind of evil is the love of money." Money is not the only root of evil. Like a tree, there are many roots, but the largest root of evil is money. Those who pursue money at any cost and by any means are deceived. Some in the pursuit of wealth have wandered (erred) from the faith and in so doing have brought to themselves much grief.

Paul's charge to Timothy vv. 11-12

There are four strong words in verses 11-12. They are "flee, follow, fight, and lay hold." The first is negative, the others are positive. There is a time to walk or run away. It is not a sign of cowardice or weakness. It is a sign of wisdom.

Then we are to follow after spiritual values. Paul listed six virtues which are to be sought. The word fight means to contend for the prize, which in this context is our faith in Jesus Christ. Lay hold means to grip securely.

All four words describe the active nature of Christian life.

Paul's advice to the wealthy vv. 17-19

Paul advised the wealthy that there are some things to avoid (v. 17): loftiness of mind and too much dependence upon wealth. Paul offered a commendation for all things. They are to be enjoyed. Wealth is a marvelous tool, but it is a terrible master.

There are also some things to seek (vv. 18-19). One should seek to do good and be rich in good deeds. Real life in Jesus Christ does not have to be

propped up by riches. In fact, the pursuit of riches is a real hindrance to the Christian life. To be able to help others with our possessions is a Christian privilege and joy.

The right use of wealth is absolutely essential if we are to experience Godly contentment. Making money, spending money,

Basic Passage: I Timothy 6:6-21

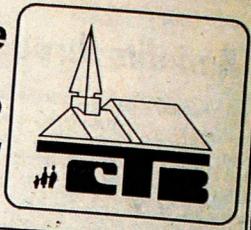
and saving money are parts of our consumer society. But the Christian must always determine where his or her priorities lay. Jesus said, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these other things (food, clothing, and shelter) shall be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33). ☐

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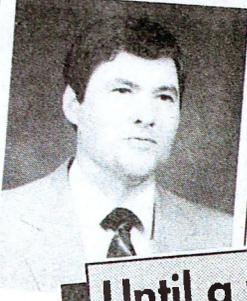
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and anticipated. Two of our youth, Josh
Coats and J. J. Rickman, were saved
Friday night at the retreat. Our guest
speaker, Steve Flippo, blessed our hearts
with his enthusiastic love for...
We wish to th...

of our group. "Best of Friends" meets on
Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. for Bible
study and "One Voice" meets every
Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. at the educa-
tional building.
"Best of Friends"

6 p.m. from the church. "Mystery Mania"
will require the help of several adults to
act as chaperones. "clue" helpers, etc. A
provided that night at...
with small children
ke part. This activity
ent from anything
Come expecting a

Until a few months ago, Lakeview Baptist Church had
never had a newsletter — now they have one every
other week on the back page of the **Baptist and
Reflector**.

Lakeview Baptist Church in Selmer has joined the "church page fami-
ly" of the **Baptist and Reflector**. Now, in addition to reading news about
Tennessee Baptists and Southern Baptists across the world, the church gets
its own news on the back page of the paper. Lakeview started out with a
half-page; now they are getting a full page every two weeks.

The **Baptist and Reflector** has a plan to meet your church's needs,
whether it is a half-page every week, a full page once a month, or a half
page or full page weekly. If your church has never had a newsletter before,
now is the time to begin one.

Return the form below to discover an exciting offer which will enable
your church to get all the news in one simple package.

Yes, send my church information on how to have our newsletter in the **Baptist and Reflector** each week.

Church _____
Address _____
Your name _____ Title _____

would like to say a...
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and invites people to come.
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School.

Bro Larry

Bro. Joe